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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/468,257	12/20/1999	ANGELA K. HANSON	10990314-1	3407

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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION  
FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER
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VEILLARD, JACQUES

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.  
**09/468,257**

Applicant(s)  
**Angela K. Hanson et al.**

Examiner  
**Jacques Veillard**

Art Unit  
**2175**



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE Three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 20, 1999
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) None is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) None is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) None is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claims None are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:

- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

DOV POPOVICI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

## Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). 2 20) ☐ Other:

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This is a response to the application filed on 12/20/1999 in which, claims 1-20 are pending and presented for examination.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

2. The information disclosure statement filed on 12/20/1999 ( Paper No. 2) is complied with the provisions of 37 C F R 1.97, it has been placed in the application file. The document referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Merchant et al.(hereinafter Merchant, U. S. Pat. No. 5,422,733).

As per claims 1 and 20, Merchant discloses a method and apparatus facsimile communication with capability of transmitting address and message information (See Merchant's col.1, lines 14-18). Similarly, the method taught by Merchant comprising the steps of: locating a communication mark, if one is present, on a medium containing information (See Merchant's

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col.5, lines 3-6, and col.12, lines 39-42); obtaining at least one address directly or indirectly from said communication mark (See Merchant's col.5, lines 23-29); inputting said address into an address function of a communication device (See Merchant's col.3, lines 7-13, lines 58-63, and col.4, lines 8-38); and initiating a communication of said information to said address through said communication device (See Marchant's col.3, lines 17-27 and lines 48-51).

As per claim 2, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said locating step comprises scanning said medium (See Merchant's Fig.1 element 14, and col.3, lines 66-67).

As per claim 3, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said locating step comprises the step of locating said communication mark at a predetermined location on said medium (See Merchant's col. 6, lines 60-63 and col.9, lines 12-26).

As per claim 4, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said locating step comprises locating an address relative to a predetermined mark on said medium (See Merchant's col.9, lines 27-36).

As per claim 5, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said communication mark includes a first address for a first communication mode, and a second address for a second communication mode (See Merchant's col.3, lines 35-48).

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As per claim 6, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said communication mark includes a designation for a communication mode for said address, and further comprising the step of determining if said communication mode is available at said communication device (See Merchant's col.6, lines 27-32).

As per claim 7, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, wherein said communication device comprises at least two communication modes (See Merchant's col.1, lines 21-29, and col.3, lines 30-34).

As per claim 8, Merchant discloses the claimed invention limitations, further comprising the step of adding a communication mark to said information prior to initiating said communication (See Merchant's col.3, lines 63- 66). Merchant clearly shows that by adding a drawing, graphic or pictorial to the information document.

As per claim 9, Merchant discloses a method, wherein said communication mark is a bar code (See Merchant's col.5, lines 29-34, and lines 39-44).

As per claim 10, Merchant discloses an encoder (Fig.1 element 214) which encodes the information, preferably text formatted information, according to the American Standard Code for

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Information Interchange (ASCII) that is not visible to the Unaided Human eye (See Merchant's col.5, lines 29-34). As shown by Merchant any encoded or barcoded information in a document is suitable to be seen by the Human eye.

As per claim 11, Merchant discloses a method, wherein said communication mark is a reference to a location where an address is stored (See Merchant's col.7, lines 16-21).

As per claim 12, Merchant discloses a method, further comprising the step of accessing said address over a network (See Merchant's Fig.1, and col.3, lines 17-23).

As per claim 13, Merchant discloses a method, further comprising the step of accessing a URL address wherein said address is located (See Merchant's col.1, lines 21-24).

As per claim 14, Merchant discloses a method, wherein said communication device is a voice communication device (See Merchant's col.1, lines 21-26).

As per claim 15, Merchant discloses a method, wherein said determining step comprises the step of, when it is determined that said communication mode is not available at said communication device, sending said address and said information to a different communication device (See Merchant's col.11, lines 30-52).

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As per claim 16, Merchant discloses a method as Merchant discloses a system, further comprising the step of storing said address obtained directly or indirectly from said communication mark (See Merchant's col.7, lines 16-21).

As per claim 17, Merchant discloses a method further comprising the steps of determining a name of an addressee corresponding to said obtained address (See Merchant's col.6, lines 63-68 to col.7, line 1); and displaying said addressee name to a user (See Merchant's col.7, lines 1-4).

As per claim 18, Merchant discloses a method further comprising the step of adding a new communication mark to said information that includes directly or indirectly a new address to be obtained relative to said obtained at least one address (See Merchant's col.3, lines 58-67). Merchant shows a new communication mark to the source document information by a written text such as a handwritten message.

As per claim 19, Merchant discloses a reference to an address from a located communication mark (See Merchant's col.8, lines 62-68 to col.9, lines 1-11). Merchant shows a type information which a handwritten letters, characters, and symbols entered into the fixed field of the first format region and encoded ASCII text. The type information is, for example, characterized as an address reference for the selective call receiver to be paged other system information.

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***Other Prior Art Made Of Record***

5. Cannistra et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 4,633,507): Disclosed an apparatus with optical detecting device for reading mark sheets.

Cash et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 3,763,467): Disclosed a method and apparatus for reading code data on documents.

Baker et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 5,862,243): Disclosed a system for evaluating bar coded mail which includes an imaging device to provide an image signal corresponding to an image of a bar code or an address of a piece of mail.

Mohtashemi et al. (U. S. Pat. No. 5,684,865): Disclosed a method for efficient facsimile communication with selective call receivers.

***Conclusion***

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

7. **Any response to this action should be mail to:**

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**Or faxed to:**

(703) 746-7238 (for formal communication intended for entry)



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**Or:**

(703) 746-7240( for informal of draft communications, please label

“PROPOSED” or “DRAFT”)

Hand - delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington.  
VA, Fourth Floor (Receptionist).

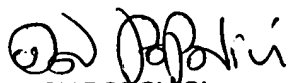
8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jacques Veillard whose telephone number is (703) 305-7094. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:30 AM to 4: 30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dov Popovici, can be reached on ( 703) 305-3830. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 308-5403.



Jacques Veillard

February 6, 2002



DOV. POPOVICI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER